

Application No.: 09/555,349

Claims 1, 3-5, and 7 have been canceled. While applicant does not necessarily agree with the United States Patent and Trademark Office's (hereinafter the "Patent Office") rejections of claims 1, 3-5, and 7 and the positions advanced by the Patent Office in support thereof, in an effort to expedite the issuance of claims 29 and 30, claims 1, 3-5, and 7 are hereby canceled. Applicant reserves the right to file a continuing application encompassing the subject matter of claims 1-28 as originally filed.

CONCLUSIONS

In light of the above remarks and the cancellation of all non-allowed claims, applicant submits that the subject patent application is in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any small matter should remain outstanding after the Patent Examiner has had an opportunity to review the above Remarks, the Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned patent attorney in order to place the application in condition for allowance.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of payment or credit any overpayments associated with the filing of this correspondence to Deposit Account No. 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,
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1/17/03

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